

REMARKS

The Office Communication of November 21, 2005 has been received and reviewed. Claims 1-16 and 20-26 are currently pending in the application and subject to a restriction requirement. In the present Second Preliminary Amendment, claims 1 and 8 have been amended to conform more closely to US practice.

Restriction Requirement

The Examiner states that the present application contains multiple inventions or groups of inventions categorized as follows:

Group I, claims 1-7, drawn to an isolated polypeptide N-acetylglucosamine transferase,

Group II, claims 8-16, drawn to isolated polynucleotides encoding a polypeptide N-acetylglucosamine transferase, expression vector, host cell and nucleic acid for the measurement of nucleic acid,

Group III, claims 20-22 (in part) and 23-25, drawn to a method of detecting cancer by measuring an amount of the nucleic acid using a primer or probe, and

Group IV, claims 20-22 (in part) and 26, drawn to a method of diagnosing cancer by measuring the expression of a polypeptide.

(See, Office Communication of November 21, 2005, at pages 2-3).

Applicants hereby elect, with traverse, to prosecute the claims of Group I, containing claims 1-7. All four groups of claims share a common technical feature. Examining all four groups of claims would not constitute an undue burden on the Examiner.

Species Election

The Examiner also imposes a species election as follows:

- (A) protein of SEQ ID NO:1 or a nucleic acid encoding SEQ ID NO:1
- (B) protein of SEQ ID NO:3 or a nucleic acid encoding SEQ ID NO:3.

(See, *Id.* at page 3).

Applicants elect species A, a protein of SEQ ID NO:1.

CONCLUSION

In light of the above election, Applicants respectfully request substantive examination on the merits of claims 1-7. Applicants submit that when the claims of Group I are considered to be allowable, the claims of at least Group II be rejoined.

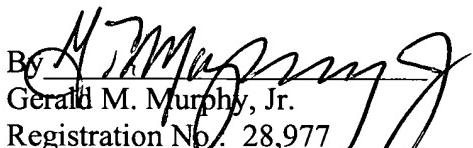
Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Thomas J. Siepmann, Registration No. 57,374 at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

- Attached is a Petition for Extension of Time.
- Attached hereto is the fee transmittal listing the required fees.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: February 21, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By 
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